



Snail, 2019

Michael Cooper (1944—2025) was a British sculptor who created both large and small-scale animal and human sculptures in marble, stone and bronze. Having grown up in the west of Ireland, Cooper moved to England to study at Heatherly's School of Art between 1969 and 1971, and then continued to study under Anthony Gray.

Working in a variety of different mediums including marble, stone and bronze, it is the nature of the material that lends itself to Cooper's flowing harmonies of surface and so seductively suggests the power and grace of the natural world. Cooper's sensuous sculptures have a deep and quiet energy, perhaps imparted by the long hours of chipping which bring them forth from the stone, revealing not only the inner calm and beauty of the stone but also the essence of the subject itself. His work brings the third dimension vividly to life through the irresistible urge to feel and caress the surface and form, and this abstract pleasure is essential to the appreciation of his sculptures.

Cooper had exhibited widely since 1974, both in Britain and abroad, including Jersey and London Zoos, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and The Royal Academy, as well as with many private galleries. His large-scale commissions include a four-ton Gorilla for Lord Carrington's Sculpture Garden, a 1.5 metre high Bear for Bicester Village in Oxfordshire and a reclining figure in Travertine Marble for Covent Garden in London.

Cooper was a fellow of the Royal British Society of Sculptors and exhibits permanently at The Sir Charles Napier restaurant, Oxon.

Selected	2024	<i>Apocalypse Now</i> , Tristan Hoare, London, UK
Exhibitions	2023	<i>Out of the Block</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK <i>Christmas Cracker</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK
	2022	<i>The Conference of the Birds</i> , curated with Flora Hesketh & Omar Mazhar, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK <i>Masterpiece London</i> , Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK <i>BACK TO THE CAVE - Sculpture goes underground!</i> , curated by Pangolin Gallery, Clearwell Caves, Gloucestershire, UK
	2021	<i>Folds</i> , Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK <i>Christmas Cracker</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK
	2020	<i>Christmas Cracker</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK <i>Sculpture in the Garden</i> , Pangolin, London, UK
	2019	<i>Christmas Cracker</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK <i>Botanica</i> , Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
	2018	<i>Christmas Cracker</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK
	2017	<i>Every Object Tells a Story</i> , Oliver Hoare Ltd, The Lavery Room, London, UK
	2016	<i>Sculpture in the Garden</i> , Pangolin, London, UK
	2015	<i>Every Object Tells a Story</i> , Pangolin, London, UK
	2014	<i>Crucible 2</i> , Gloucester Cathedral, UK
	2010	<i>Stirred for the Bird</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK <i>Crucible</i> , Gloucester Cathedral, UK Solo Exhibition, Pangolin, London, UK
	2008	<i>Debut Show</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK Solomon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
	2007	<i>Bronzes – Solo Show</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK <i>Sculpture for Small Gardens</i> , Solomon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland <i>Autumn Exhibition</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK
	2006	Solomon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
	2005	Frank T. Sabin Gallery, London, UK <i>Body Language</i> , Gallery Pangolin, London, UK
	2004	<i>Solo Show</i> , Frank T. Sabin Gallery, London, UK Gallery Pangolin, Stroud, UK <i>Sculpture Under English Skies</i> , Frank T. Sabin Gallery, Woburn Abbey, UK

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- 2001 Bruton Street Gallery, London, UK
The Royal West of England Academy, UK
- 1999-2000 Bruton Street Gallery, London, UK
The Royal Society of British Sculptors, London, UK
- 1998 Jersey Zoo, Jersey, The Channel Islands
Zoo Sculpt '98, London Zoo, London, UK
- 1997 *Sixteen Sculptors*, Sladmore Gallery, London, UK
Fine Art Fair, Olympia, London, UK
- 1996 Masterpiece, London, UK
- 1995 Chelsea Harbour, London, UK Hannah Peshar Gallery, London, UK
- 1994 Contemporary Art Fair, London, UK Fire Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland
- 1993 *Zoo Sculpt '93*, London Zoo, London, UK Sladmore Gallery, London, UK
- 1982-1992 Jonathon Poole Gallery, London and Woodstock, UK
A.J.W. Fine Art, Washington DC, USA
Bath Contemporary Art Fair, Bath, UK
- 1992 Bruton Street Gallery, London, UK
- 1984 Poole Wills Gallery, New York, USA
International Art Fair – Barbican Centre, London, UK Yorkshire Sculpture Park,
Yorkshire, UK
- 1983 The Century Gallery, Henley, UK
British Art New Directions – Puck Building, New York, USA Washington Art
Fair, Washington DC, USA
- 1982 The London Group Touring Exhibition, London, UK
Basel Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland
The Royal Academy, London, UK
- 1981 The Festival Gallery, Bath, UK
- 1980 The Earlham Street Gallery, London, UK
- 1977 Land Lane Gallery, Dublin, Ireland Municipal Gallery, Cork, Ireland
- 1974 Artists of Chelsea, London, UK
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Art Fairs	2026	PAD London, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
	2025	PAD London, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
	2023	NOMAD Fair St. Moritz, Tristan Hoare Gallery, Room 209
	2022	Masterpiece London, Tristan Hoare Gallery, UK

Selected Collaborations/ Commissions	2015	Gorilla, Kilkenny blue limestone, Sir Charles Napier Restaurant
	2008	3 Life-size Bears, Belgian Fossil Marble, Bicester Retail Village
	2004	Leaping Salmon, 7ft Carving in Belgian Fossil Marble, Berkeley Sq, London
	1994	Gorilla, 4 ton carving in Belgian Fossil Marble, Lord Carrington's Sculpture Garden
